

	Name of City	Waiting List
1.	Gandhinagar (State Capital)	2885
2.	Amedabad	47797
3.	Rajkot	7066
4.	Surat	16404
5.	Vadodara	23447

(b) A part of the waiting list as on 28.2.97 has been cleared during March, 1997. New exchanges are being opened and the existing exchanges are being expanded to clear the remaining waiting list during 1997-98 and thereafter, subject to availability of equipment and other resources.

Waiting List for Telephone

432. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons in the waiting list for telephone connections in the state capitals of the country as on February 28, 1997; and

(b) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to clear the waiting list ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The details of waiting list, as on February 28, 1997 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) A part of the waiting list as on 28.2.97, has been cleared during March, 97. Efforts are being made to clear most of the remaining waiting list during 1997-98 and thereafter, subject to availability of equipment and other resources.

Statement

*Waiting List in the State Capitals as on
February 28, 1997*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of State Capital	Waiting list as on 28.02.1997
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	37189
2.	Assam	Guwahati	9587

1	2	3	4
3.	Bihar	Patna	9990
4.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar	2885
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1438
6.	Haryana	Chandigarh	5324
7.	J & K	1. Srinagar	17039
		2. Jammu	7101
8.	Karnataka	Bangalore	41461
9.	Kerala	Trivandrum	8990
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	8598
11.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	20387
12.	Goa	Punjim	229
13.	North-East		
	i. Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	951
	ii. Manipur	Imphal	1072
	iii. Meghalaya	Shillong	1867
	iv. Mizoram	Aizawal	714
	v. Nagaland	Kohima	429
	vi. Tripura	Agartala	3909
14.	Orissa	Bhubneshwar	4501
15.	Punjab	Chandigarh	5324
16.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	40925
17.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	84393
18.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	1600
19.	West Bengal	Calcuttta	59036
20.	Sikkim	Gangtok	602
21.	Delhi	Delhi	3783

[English]

Survey for Wadi-Gadag Railway Line

433. SHRI RAJA RANGAPPA NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey for Wadi-Gadag railway line has been conducted recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) A survey for this line has been included in Budget, 1997-98.

(c) Does not arise.

Madras-Jaipur Superfast Express Train

434. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the route of Madras-Jaipur Superfast Express train to Jodhpur, Divisional Railway Headquarter which is an important town of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) There is no proposal to extend 9767/9768 Madras-Jaipur Express upto Jodhpur.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resources constraints.

Power Project of Hinduja at Vishakhapatnam

435. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh have met the Prime Minister for clearance of 1000 MW power project of Hinduja at Vishakhapatnam;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister have agreed and promised to clear all the projects mentioned by the Chief Minister; and

(c) if so, the latest position in regard to these project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had submitted a Memorandum to the Prime Minister in May,

1997 for clearance of the 1000 MW Simhadri Project of NTPC. The project has since received investment approval of Government of India.

Telephone on Priority

436. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone connections allotted on out-of-turn/priority basis during the last six months in various metropolitan cities;

(b) whether the Government are considering for restoration of facility/special quota provided to MPs with suitable modification; and

(c) if so, the details alongwith present status of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) So far as the facility/special quota provided from time to time to Hon'ble MPs for recommendation of Twenty Five out of turn telephone connections anywhere in India is concerned, the question of restoration does not arise as the status-quo is being maintained.

Unutilised Funds

437. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds allocated to various States for Tele-communications projects network remain unutilised or surrendered;

(b) if so, the details of the amount unutilised/surrendered by each Telecom Circle in Maharashtra State during the last three years and reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken/proposed in the light of experiences gain so far; and

(d) the details of revised allocation of funds for the current year and progress of works for projects in Vidarbha region in particular upto 30.6.97 and reasons for delay if any, Telegraph circle-wise in Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d) The information has been called for from the concerned unit. The same will be placed